

From ab4e1.com Thu Sep 15 09:57:30 1994
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Message-Id: <9409150824.tn1018677@aol.com>
Subject: AN/USM-3A

Picked this up from one of the radio newsgroups. Thought this might interest some of us:

[illegible]

Subject: military surplus test set
>From: skipperm@MTC2.MID.TEC.SC.US
Date: 14 Sep 1994 16:50:51 GMT
Message-ID: <35791b\$ggtt@ns.sunbelt.net>

I recently purchased a military surplus test-tool set - includes a tube tester ,VOM, signal tracer,RF probe, tec, in a very small package the unit came with no instructions or manual - I need to located operating instructions and service manual for this item.

label on unit reads:

AN/USM - 3A

TEST-TOOL-SET

any help would be greatly appreciated. Will gladly pay cost of coping and mailing info.
e-mail to - skipperm@mtc2.mid.tec.sc.us

thanks in advance
Skip - KE4DFY

[illegible]

Joseph Pinner +
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD

From ab4e1.com Thu Sep 15 08:51:45 1994
From: "Rhett T. George" <rtg@ee.duke.edu>
Message-Id: <199409151210.IAA57531@ee.ee.duke.edu>
Subject: Re: BC-348 Boogie

- Larry, KQ4BY et al -
Hobby stores carry gentle paint strippers to remove such from plastic models. Try a 'don't care' knob in that stuff and see if unwanted paint comes off without knob damage. Then you may try the BC-348 knobs and pray for paint removal without damage. In lieu of that material, I have often used brake fluid - the cheapest will do. So far, no damage to the

parts. Good luck.

Rhett, KE4HIH

From ab4e1.com Thu Sep 15 09:23:09 1994
From: "Rhett T. George" <rtg@ee.duke.edu>
Message-Id: <199409151223.IAA57511@ee.ee.duke.edu>
Subject: Re: Chassis Cleaning

- Marc, KB0JPQ, et al -

Regarding those chassis rust spots, I have to take note of the instruction in auto body repair books. "Sand the metal until it is bright." This is to make certain that the surface is steel and not one of its oxides.

Rhett, KE4HIH

From ab4e1.com Thu Sep 15 22:27:14 1994
Message-Id: <m0qlQkT-0002AXC@aupair.cs.athabascau.ca>
From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)
Subject: Eeek! The following from wreck.audio.highend

This was entitled: re: sources of 897's drying up

I didn't know those lunatics liked 807's. sheesh, are 1625's next?

>In article emanley@netcom.com (EveAnna Manley) writes:

>

>>David says (and I quote): The NOS (even JAN 807's) are not as suited for
>>audio as either the russian or chinese 807 which are still available (for
>>cheap \$ too.)

>>Are you collecting to display them on your shelf or are you actually
>>going to *use* them?

>

>As a budding aficionado of the "807" tube David Manley's response via
>EveAnna sort of surprised me. I have an 807 single ended amp (the one
>featured in Sound Practices a few issues ago) and several hundred NOS
>807's in my collection from a very wide variety of manufacturers including
>Brimar, Telefunken, RCA, some Russian built critters and some of the Chinese
>bot's. My experience is 180 degrees out of sync with David's observations.
>I have found the Chinese 807's to be (bar any that I've heard) uniformly the
>worse sounding. Very tinny, high distortion, little warmth, and on and on.

>

>The Jan 807's which he disparages I have found to be the best sounding 807's
>in my entire collection. The Russian guys were pretty darn good sounding but
>they are not in current production and have been unobtainable through New
>Sensor (who is the main importer of Russian built tubes) and, furthermore,
>I am published reports indicate that the tooling had been destroyed. (A pity).

>6BE6 plate and the B+ supply. A switch deck, which is part of the band
>selector, shorts either the hi or lo IF coil, depending on whether the
>receiver is operating in single or dual-conversion mode.

>The link on the first transformer is coupled to the link on the second. <<<<<<<
>The hi IF coil is coupled to the grid of the second 6BE6. The lo IF
>goes to the xtal in the second mixer. The original schematic indicated
>that the frequency was 3.49 MHz, but my particular unit uses 2.580 MHz,
>which is identical to the HQ-170 configuration.

>Bob - N3MBY

That's interesting. Is the link between the IF transformers for regeneration or
neutralization?

Larry Kenan - KD6CKR

From ab4el.com Thu Sep 15 10:46:56 1994
From: KANAMAA%AMGATE%MATRXA@randb.abbott.com
Subject: Me Tarzan... You Jane....
Message-Id: <01HH4VN4SVDEDO4JCA@RANDB.PPRD.Abbott.Com>

>From: Kana, Michael (D9CY)
Date: Thu, Sep 15, 1994 8:33 AM
Subject: Me Tarzan... You Jane....
To: boatanchors
Howdy All

I have to mirror Tom's comments on the Janes Mil Com books. The
price is in line with what I paid for mine at the Half Price Books
in Austin. Kind of like the Sears Wish Book for big boys. I have
never heard of the Security and CO-IN book. I take it contains
starlight scopes and other James Bond goodies.

73's de AA9IL
Mike Kana

From ab4el.com Thu Sep 15 17:56:22 1994
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: Radio Madness...
Message-Id: <940915192411_71333.144_DHQ66-3@CompuServe.COM>

I am in the grip of radio madness here--not to be confused with Reefer Madness
of celluloid fame. I have one guy who sent me money for an item two months ago
, then he called and didn't want that item any more, instead he wanted a bunch of

other stuff which I agreed to hold. Then nothing. He won't answer my repeated notes and messages even though I already have his money.

Then I'm hung up by another guy who's a similar head case. He's had my money for 7 weeks now plus a trade item I sent him and refuses to ship my radio to me. He answers my messages politely enough BUT NOTHING EVER HAPPENS! What gets into people??.....

I guess I'm doing purgatory time for all the stuff I've ever shipped out late! Sheesh...

From ab4e1.com Thu Sep 15 04:53:59 1994
From: "PMD G.SIFAKIS" <pmdsif@isoft.intranet.gr>
Message-Id: <9409150807.AA17621@asterix.isoft.intranet.gr>
Subject: Re: Re: BA Folklore

Rich writes:

>editor. His tips of "scope the B+ for bad filtering when you get lots of
>weird symptoms" or "scope the bypass capacitors, you should see nothing at
>all if they are working" and a host of others were some of the best

Rich and the rest of you RE fans, if you have the time I would appreciate more of these one-liner service tips. I'm sure other people will find them useful too and it would be a nice addition to the FAQs.

>73 de Rich KB8TAD post@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu

73 de George SV0KA pmdsif@isoft.intranet.gr

From ab4e1.com Thu Sep 15 04:05:28 1994
From: Fire Bottle archive handler <firebotl@jackatak.raider.net>
Subject: Top Band query
Message-Id: <9409142257.aa11294@jackatak.raider.net>

Gary-

> During the discussion the specifications of the EFJ Matchbox I was reminded
> of the lack of 160m coverage on a lot of equipment of the 50's and 60's.
> I am only vaguely aware of the history of this band and would appreciate
> it if someone could fill in the details.

I was first licensed when Eisenhower was President and times were simpler... and, as resident list curmudgeon, I'll take a swing at your question.

> I expect technical details are a consideration.
Actually, the technical considerations were on the LORAN end of the

equation... there was very little interference to amateur operations from our direction finding primary users... vice versa was a different story! ;^)

> At those frequencies

> coils and capacitors do get kind of large.

Hah! EVERYTHING in those days was large! Else, why call'em

"boatanchors"??? Given the early start for amateur radio (I heartily recommend "200 Meters and Down", DeSoto circa 1932 for a rich fill on the birth of the radio hobby... it plays VERY differently than now! ;^)

> But I think the main consideration was regulatory, wasn't it?

Absolutely. The LORAN system could not tolerate much near RF, and the rules were designed to keep that from happening... the closer to navigable water one got, the worse things were on Top Band...

> Can anyone fill in the story a little?

Well, here are the frequency and power limits circa 1959... Note how little overlap there was, and how much split frequency one would have to do... also note how VERY difficult a WAS would have been, even with propagation and antenna issues aside!

		Power Level	
-- AREA --	160 Band	Days	Night
MN, IA, WI, MI, PA MD, DE, AND STATES TO NORTH	1800 - 1825	500	200
ND, SD, NE, CO, NM AND STATES WEST (INC HI	1975 - 2000	500*	200*
		*IN STATE OF WA	
		200	50
OK, KS, MO, AR, IL IN, KY, TN, OH, WV VA, NC, SC, AND TX (WEST OF 99 W OR N OF 32 N)	1800 - 1825	200	50

NO OPERATION ELSEWHERE!!!

Note the absence of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and the Texas Gulf Coast --

This was also a time well before "Incentive Licensing", a time when ALL amateurs with General or Extra Class tickets had access to all HF frequencies equally... Technicians had all 50 Mc privileges, and access to all bands 220 Mc and above!

I lacked the Real Estate for an effective antenna for 160 in those days, and lacked the funds for anything but homebrewed transmitters

and modified or homebrewed receivers. Boy Mechanic had radio plans for curious kids (of all ages) who were willing to try building, and you turned the receiver on and listened for a long while before even lighting the heaters on the transmitter... no sense in wasting the electricity (or the tubes!) if there was nothing to work.

My primary love of hollow state gear isn't so much nostalgic as it is a function of the size of my hands and body! I can't even see, let alone pick up modern components... but tubes? Yep, I could see 'em, smell 'em, feel 'em, and work on 'em... with one hand in my pocket! These modern rigs are buckets of processed beachsand, and I don't understand how that works! ;^) I *need* a final PA I can walk into for servicing! (Saw one of those close up on Bonaire, NA (Netherland Antilles)... 500KW into an AWESOME array! EEEEEEEHAW!
73 ES TNX FER THE STROLL DOWN MEMORY LANE
Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657 -- all from the mobile! ;^)

Fire Bottle Server (Boat Anchors Get Out and Keep You Warm!)
firebotl@jackatak.raider.net
Where Old Radios and Fun ... GO TOGETHER!
+-----human interface: root@jackatak.raider.net -----+

From ab4el.com Thu Sep 15 11:53:32 1994
Message-Id: <9409151408.AA24320@hpslwes.lvld.hp.com>
Subject: Re: Top Band query
From: Bill Standerfer <billsl@hpslwes.lvld.hp.com>

A few more historical notes about Top Band after looking through some old books last night and receiving a few comments from others on the net.

The frequency chart in the 1958 handbook noted that the Gulf coast states had no privileges on 160 at all. Northern states could use 500 watts during the day and most could use 250 at night. Some were restricted to much less power at night. Remember that the power limit was specified as input power until the early 1970's, so there was an additional disadvantage.

Bob, K0KR, sent along several other good comments. First, efficient antennas are relatively difficult to construct on the normal city lot. This hasn't changed any in 40 years, but there are a lot more folks giving it a try these days especially with all the built in automatic antenna tuners. Next, getting a high power amp to work well over 1.8 to 30Mhz (or should I say, Mcs) is not trivial. The broadband techniques used on many modern amps today were not yet available when many of our boatanchors were designed. The extra expense for the much larger inductors and capacitors was not worth it for the small market. Finally, Bob mentioned the advent of DXCC and WAS changes that encouraged contesters and certificate hunters to move to 160 for another challenge. I don't recall when the band endorsements were instituted, but I

don't think we've had them for more than about 20 years or so.

As I paged through the commercial advertisements in the back of the '58 Handbook, I noted that, while there were transmitters for 160, they were generally not the high end or SSB models. The Globes and DX-100, as well as most of the Johnsons had 160. However, the HT-37 didn't even though the SX-101 receiver did. The Collins KWS-1/75A-4 pair was the same. I'm pretty sure the Hammarlund HX-50 didn't have 160 either even though the receivers did. My Johnson Invader 2000 doesn't have 160 and, I think for obvious reasons, none of the other high power transmitters had it. The first high quality SSB equipment to include 160 meters that I can remember was the Drake R-4/T-4X in the early 60's. That pair stood alone for many years before any other manufacturers began to include the band.

Inside the Handbook, there were only a few paragraphs on antennas for 160 and the discussion centered on the inverted L or long wire. There was nothing like the volumes written today, such as ON4UN's book on low band DXing. A few of the construction projects for transmitters and receivers included 160, but most didn't.

So that's the story from my recollection. There was some equipment available for use on 160 meters, but there were also lots of forces at work to make operating there more trouble than it was worth for the average ham.

Bill

Bill Standerfer	*	Hewlett-Packard Company
CFI-A, IA, ME	*	VXI Systems Division
bills@lvld.hp.com	*	Loveland, CO 80539
Baron N222AB - KF0DJ - Pikes Peak 253	*	303-679-2378

From ab4el.com Thu Sep 15 19:58:54 1994
From: emd@ham.island.net (Robert Smits)
Subject: Re: Top Band query
Message-Id: <091594133259Rnf0.79b4@ham.island.net>

Fire Bottle archive handler <firebot1@jackatak.raider.net> writes:

>Gary-

>

>> During the discussion the specifications of the EFJ Matchbox I was reminded
>> of the lack of 160m coverage on a lot of equipment of the 50's and 60's.
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>> it if someone could fill in the details.

>I was first licensed when Eisenhower was President and times were
>simpler... and, as resident list curmudgeon, I'll take a swing at your
>question.

>

Hmmm. Not to dispute your assertion as a resident curmudgeon, but I would declare there are more of us. Kindly note which org I post from. :-)

Curmudgeon: [origin unknown]

1 archaic: a crusty, ill tempered, churlish old man
2 modern: anyone who hates hypocrisy and pretense and has the temerity to say so; anyone with the habit of pointing out unpleasant facts in an engaging and humourous manner

--

emd@ham.island.net (Robert Smits, VE7EMD Ladysmith B.C.)

Why don't you get a haircut? You look like a chrysanthemum. P.G.Wodehouse

From ab4el.com Thu Sep 15 12:03:47 1994
From: "Kearman, Jim, KR1S" <jkearman@arrl.org>
Subject: Want to Unsubscribe?
Message-Id: <2E785D30@arrl.org>

IF YOU UNSUBSCRIBED ON SEPT 12 OR 13, PLEASE UNSUBSCRIBE AGAIN, AS I ACCIDENTALLY DELETED THE LIST.

I finally heard from Paul Prescott, who is alive and well. There is a possibility he may be able to do limited maintenance on this mailing list soon.

Here's the deal: If you want to unsubscribe, send me email with a text that says

UNSUBSCRIBE BOATANCHORS [email.address]

If you don't include your email address in the message, I won't be able to determine it and you won't get unsubscribed.

Put nothing else in the text. I'll save these messages and forward them to Paul. If you unsubscribe, you're history until Paul can resume daily maintenance of the list again (see below).

It will not be possible for Paul to add new subscribers at this time.

Paul hopes to return to Texas in late October, at which time he'll be maintaining the list as before. He apologized for the departure of the guy

who said he'd keep an eye on it in his absence.

Paul liked the idea of a temporary "list of the list" to accommodate those who wish to join. That should hold us until his return.

I don't know exactly when the unsubscribing will commence; that's up to Paul, but figure sometime in the next week or two. I'll post this message for a couple of days, and turn over the list of those who want out to Paul later in the week.

Sorry, I can't answer any further questions, etc.

73

Jim Kearman, KR1S
jkearman@arrl.org